

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 31, 2020

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Madam Speaker, on Monday, December 28, 2020 I was unavoidably detained and missed Roll Call vote No. 253. Had I been present, I would have voted AYE on Roll Call vote No. 253.

CONGRATULATING DOUG CRANDALL ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 31, 2020

Mr. PETERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Doug Crandall, who will retire at the end of this year after 13 years with the U.S. Forest Service. The Members and staff of the House Agriculture Committee wish to express our thanks and best wishes to Doug for his service. We had the opportunity to work closely with Doug and his staff as Director of Legislative Affairs for the Forest Service, and we'll miss his dedication and professionalism. Together we've worked on several important efforts, including the landmark Wildfire Funding Fix in 2018, and most recently the Great American Outdoors Act. During his time with the Forest Service, Doug has answered the Secretary's call several times, serving as Acting Assistant Secretary of Congressional Relations for one year, as well as Acting Deputy Under Secretary of Natural Resources and Environment. Doug came to the Forest Service from right here in the House, where he served for eight years as Staff Director for the Natural Resources Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health. Prior to that, Doug represented the Society of American Foresters, the National Forest Foundation, and the American Forest and Paper Association. We will miss Doug's hard work and we send our sincere gratitude and wish him all the best in retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM HAGEDORN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 31, 2020

Mr. HAGEDORN. Madam Speaker, had I been present for the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 9051, I would have voted "nay." Had I been present for the vote to Override the President's Veto Message on H.R. 6395—Mac Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, I would have voted "nay."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NEAL P. DUNN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 31, 2020

Mr. DUNN. Madam Speaker, I was unable to travel to Washington, D.C. on December 28 due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 253.

CONGRATULATING BILL DAWSON

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 31, 2020

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bill Dawson on his retirement from the Georgia Ports Authority after more than forty years of dedicated work.

Bill was born and raised in Brunswick, Georgia, and he has been a pillar in his community for many years. The Georgia Ports Authority, which was founded in 1945, operates port facilities in the state of Georgia. Bill has been with them as long as they have been in Brunswick.

He was previously employed as Assistant Manager for the Brunswick Port Authority and then joined the GPA as Terminal Manager for Brunswick Operations.

Throughout his career, Bill has been a professional and a mentor to many. He has been known as the go-to person for the GPA customers and community, and he set the tone for GPA's business at the Port of Brunswick for decades.

Bill's contributions to GPA expanded beyond his job responsibilities in operations, as he always went above and beyond to oversee the success of GPA in many other areas such as sales and public relations. Although he is very passionate about the Georgia Ports Authority, he is most passionate about his grandchildren. I hope that Bill is able to cherish many more special times with them as he begins his retirement.

I wish Bill the best, and I want to thank him for his lasting impact on Brunswick.

CARING FOR AMERICANS WITH SUPPLEMENTAL HELP ACT OF 2020

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 28, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the Committees on the Judiciary, on Homeland Security, and on the Budget, I rise in strong support of H.R. 9051, the "Caring For Americans With Supplemental Help Act of 2020, or CASH Act, which pro-

vides an additional \$1,400 in recovery payments directly to Americans, who are desperately struggling to get by during the twin disasters of COVID-19 and a faltering economy.

Because I had seen first-hand the pain and devastation caused by the pandemic, in March of this year, during the debate on the CARES Act, I advocated that the amount of direct payment should be \$3,000.

Madam Speaker, I see the disparities in the lives of so many of my constituents who suffer disproportionately from medical conditions that make COVID-19 deadly.

They work low wage or no wage jobs to make ends meet, and they have no health insurance and rely on community health centers or public health services for routine care.

I call them friends and neighbors because they are that to me.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to vote in favor of this legislation that will provide them with the help they need to survive and recover from COVID-19.

No one is benefiting from the COVID-19 economy.

The U.S. poverty rate has grown at a historic rate over the past five months, with 7.8 million Americans falling into poverty after the expanded \$600 a week in unemployment assistance expired at the end of July.

This represents the greatest increase since the government began tracking poverty sixty years ago.

In the city of Houston, nine key service sectors, accounting for 70 percent of all jobs, hemorrhaged more 1,343,600 jobs, which to average folks is another way of saying that more than 1.34 million persons lost their livelihoods.

Houston workers lost jobs in the following areas: Healthcare: 391,000; Retail: 303,600; Food services: 267,000; Finance: 166,000; Private Education: 63,400; Arts and Entertainment: 37,400; Accommodations: 28,700; Air Transportation: 20,200; Other Services: 115,800.

In addition to these positions, jobs were also lost in other areas, the largest of which was the construction industry, which shut down 30,700 jobs.

Professional and business services followed, with 25,300 jobs lost, although 13,900 were in temporary and provisional jobs in employment services; upstream oil lost 12,300 in March/April; and non-oil manufacturing lost 7,700 jobs.

Americans out of work due to COVID-19 have generated 86 million jobless claims, with new claims being filed in recent weeks topping 800,000.

Millions of Americans who lost their jobs during the pandemic have fallen thousands of dollars behind on rent and utility bills, a clear warning sign that people are running out of money for basic needs.

If this is not enough evidence of what is happening just look at the miles of vehicles lined up outside of food distribution centers for assistance, we see nightly on our television screens and in our communities.

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